



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

16/D
MDJ
4-15-03

First Named

Inventor : Zine-Eddine Boutaghou et al.

Appln. No. : 09/553,220

Filed : April 20, 2000

Title : BENDING MICROACTUATOR HAVING
A TWO-PIECE SUSPENSION DESIGN

Docket No. : I69.12-0433

Group Art Unit: 2651

Examiner:
Angel A. Castro

RECEIVED

AMENDMENT

APR 14 2003

Technology Center 2600

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SENT VIA EXPRESS MAIL

Express Mail No.: EV 168053429 US

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on January 10, 2003. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, and 6 and cancel claim 3 (marked up version attached in Appendix), such that pending claims 1, 2 and 4-17 are as follows:

1. (Amended) A microactuator for selectively altering a position of a transducing head carried by a slider in a disc drive system with respect to a track of a rotatable disc having a plurality of concentric tracks, the disc drive system having an actuator arm attached to a load beam for supporting the slider over the rotatable disc, the load beam having a stationary region and a moving region, the microactuator comprising:

means for flexibly coupling the stationary region of the load beam to the moving
40 region of the load beam; and

means for selectively altering a position of the slider with respect to the rotatable disc, the means for selectively altering mounted to the means for flexibly coupling and the means for selectively altering extending from a distal end